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[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED] 21 November 1963

SOVIET FORCES IN CUBA

- I. The withdrawal of Soviet military personnel from Cuba continues. We estimate that at least 15,000-- and probably closer to 18,000--have been withdrawn since the missile crisis last year.
 - A. From the time of the crisis until mid-October this year, we found no verifiable evidence that more than a few hundred military personnel had arrived.
 - B. Since then, however, a limited program of rotation and replacement of Soviet military personnel has been in progress.

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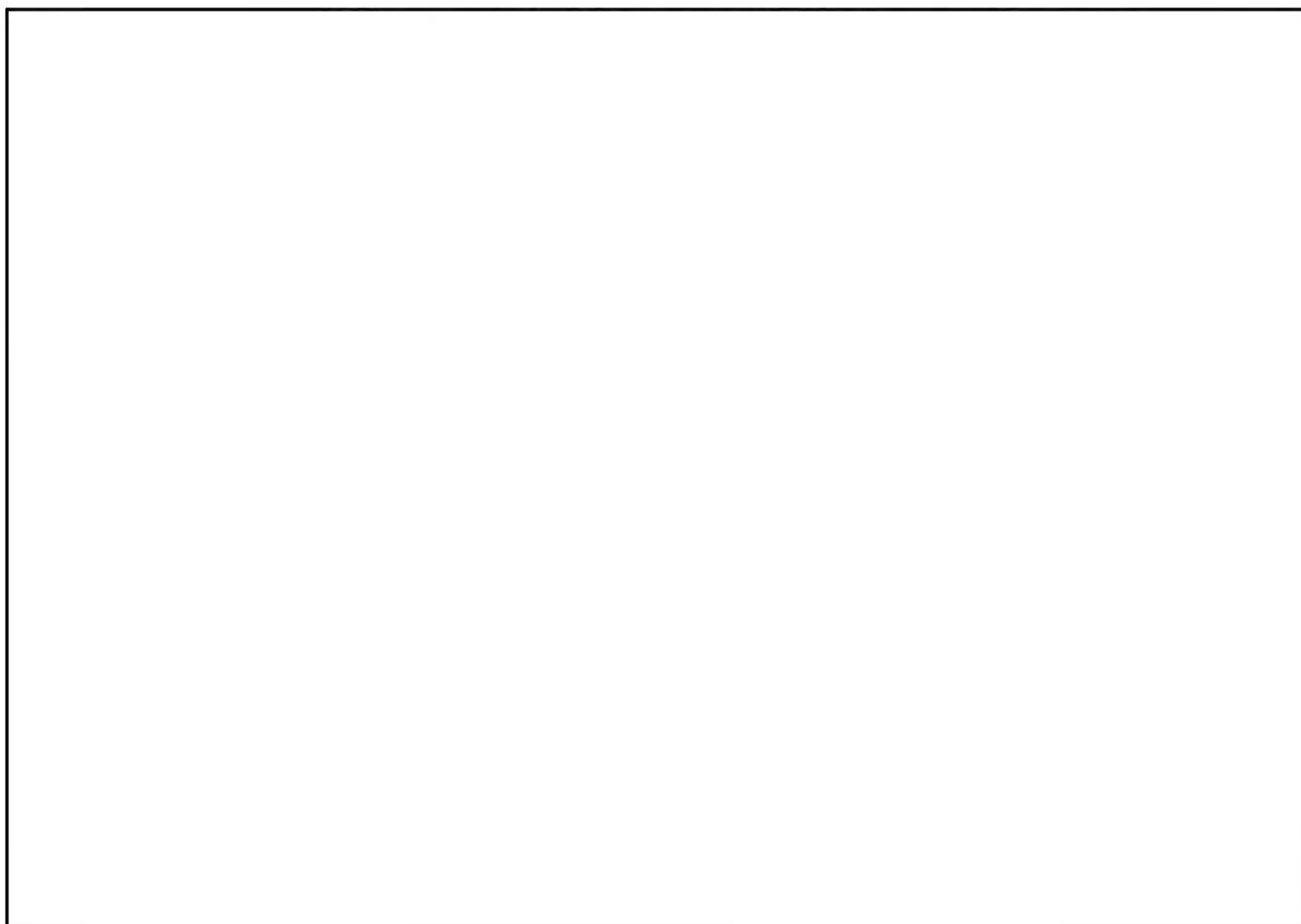
C. We believe that about 4 to 7 thousand Soviets remain in Cuba.



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2. The remaining Soviets are military advisers and technicians training Cubans, and supervising the use and maintenance of equipment turned over to the Cubans.

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III. As Cuban proficiency increases in the various weapon systems, further withdrawals of Soviet personnel will probably take place until only a military assistance and technical advisory establishment remains.

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